

Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 26 October 2023
Time: 9:00am – 12:45pm
Chair: David Ciaravolo, Amateur Fisherman's Association NT

Location: Australian Institute of Marine Science
23 Ellengowan Drive, Brinkin
Secretariat: Parul Chandel, A/Executive Officer – Committees (DEPWS) – Teams

Attendees: Alaric Fisher
Ben Smith
Emma Smith
Ian Niblock
Jamie Carle – Teams
Jim Smith
Karen Gibb
Kirsty Howey
Peta Haughey – Teams
Jared Sellwood - Proxy

Flora and Fauna Division
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation
City of Darwin
Darwin Port
INPEX
Sea Darwin
Charles Darwin University
ECNT
Santos
Power and Water Corporation

Guests: Leslie Pyne
Saijie Sim - Teams
Simon Costanzo

Suncable
Suncable
KBR

Apologies Claire Streten
Sam Buchannan
Wayne Sharp

AIMS
Paspaley
Power and Water Corporation

No.	Item	Action (e.g. Noting / Discussion / Decision)
	Meeting opened	The Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee meeting commenced at 9:13am.
1	Welcome attendance and apologies	Acting Chairperson, David Ciaravolo, opened the meeting, welcomed members and gave an acknowledgment to country. Apologies were noted from Claire Streten, Sam Buchannan, and Wayne Sharp. Jared Sellwood was a substitute for Wayne Sharp. Jamie Carle from INPEX advised that he will be stepping down from the Committee and has put forward Josh Corbett as his replacement.
2	Conflicts of Interest	No conflicts were declared.
3	Minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes of the previous meeting on 20 July 2023 were circulated to the Committee members prior to the meeting for comments / edits. The minutes were accepted with no amendments.
Actions arising from the previous meetings		

No.	Action	Action Officer	Status / Update
1	Organise an out of session workshop with DHAC and Alaric Fisher to discuss the Waste Discharge Strategy.	Carmony Leso	Pending
2	Organise a presentation with Simon Flowers and Lisa Bradley to discuss the Dredge Management Strategy.	Carmony Leso	Pending
3	Arrange another meeting with the DHAC members around the Mangrove Conservation Plan	Brydie Hill and Carmony Leso	Outstanding
4	Contact the NTEPA about meeting with a subset of DHAC to discuss the Middle Arm Sustainable Precinct Development.	Claire Streten	Outstanding
5	Provide an update to the Committee about the progress of the Dredge Management Strategy.	Alaric Fisher	Strategy currently sitting with DIPL, Alaric will follow up
6	Confirm Power and Water representative on the DHIRC Scientific Expert Panel.	Jared Sellwood	In progress Jared has followed up with Karen Avery and other representatives and it's a work in progress
7	Look at the Strategy and see how they think it would relate back to any work they are undertaking in their organisations but also how it links with the report card.	All members	In progress
4	Correspondence		
4.1	Correspondence In:		
4.1.3	Ministers reply to the Communique	Noted	
4.1.4	DHIRC SEP Minutes 11.10.2023	Noted	
4.1.5	DHIRC 2023 - Monthly Report #1	Noted	
4.2	Correspondence Out:		
4.2.6	DHAC Communique 19	Noted	
5	Matters Arising		
5	AAPowerLink update	Leslie Pyne and Saijie Sim from Suncable provided an update to the Committee for the Australia-Asia Power Link Project which included the following points of discussion:	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DarwinLink – advised about NT Key Infrastructure components like Powell Creek solar precinct, overhead transmission line (OHTL) corridor and Darwin converter site • Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) • Singapore Link • Work progressed since lodgement of Supplement to the EIS • Coastal Waters – State and NT – Murrumujuk Route and Survey • Marine Environmental Constraints map <p><i>Discussion: During the presentation, the members raised questions and concerns which were addressed by the presenters. Some of the topics discussed included the impact on flora and fauna, impact on animals from cables, impacts to amenities due to noise and vibration, solar panel efficiency, recycling and waste problem etc. Kirsty asked if a detailed management plan was being provided and the presenter responded that it was not yet at that stage. Kirsty also asked about shortcomings in the EIS documents and how they were proposing to address those. The presenters advised that the NTEPA had asked for information on different gaps in information for impacts, assessments on flora & fauna, impact on bird areas, EMS impacts on animals etc. and had been addressed in the response.</i></p> <p><i>During the construction phase presentation, Saijie discussed the project, addressed concerns about marine life and power lines, and confirmed that the trench width would be small due to separate cable installation.</i></p>
6	<p>Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card (DHIRC)</p>	<p>Simon Costanzo from KBR attended the meeting to present on the progress of the Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card (DHIRC): During his presentation, Simon Costanzo from KBR discussed the DHIRC and its history. He explained that report cards vary depending on the location and cannot be compared due to different requirements and conditions. Simon covered several topics during his presentation, including the importance of environmental monitoring, the benefits of using report cards, and the challenges of developing and implementing them in various locations. Overall, his presentation highlighted the significance of report cards in monitoring the health of our environment and the need for tailored solutions to address unique challenges in different areas. He spoke about the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information pyramid • Report Card Theory of Change • Darwin Harbour history of report cards • Starting of socio-environmental report card with Ian Potter Foundation • New vision formulated, documenting, timelines, processes and project team created • Formulation of project logo for Integrated reporting for Darwin Harbour • Stakeholder workshops • Values and indicators were listed for Darwin Harbour health • Summarising the workshop

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory videos • Weekly meetings were convened for the progress and reach consensus • Darwin Harbour Values were formulated • Standardised scoring was decided indicating healthy and unhealthy conditions <p>Simon Costanzo discussed the selection of reporting regions for the DHIRC, as well as the indicators that were used to assess the region's health. The 2021 report card scored the region a B-. Simon also provided an overview of the 2023 DHIRC and project timeline.</p> <p><i>Discussion: During the meeting, the participants had a detailed discussion about the integration of recreational fishing into the report card. Biodiversity and recreational fishing ecologists, as well as the Larrakeyah people, were consulted for their input. Boat ramp survey data from fisheries was available for the report card. DHAC expressed their interest in the report card and will be included in the communication plan. The possibility of conducting an Indigenous values survey was discussed, and modifications for indicators were incorporated based on feedback received.</i></p> <p><i>Kirsty raised concerns about the exclusion of Middle Arm from the port of Darwin and the government's lack of greenhouse emissions data. The group also debated whether to substitute 'resilience to climate change' with 'climate change preparedness.' The report card is scheduled for release on May 24.</i></p> <p>Action: Alaric to check with Karen Avery and get back to the members with an update for the emission data.</p>
7	DHAC Strategy	<p>Members noted that Claire had not received feedback regarding the discussion about the DHAC strategy. It was discussed and agreed that a separate workshop be held to progress the Strategy. Karen suggested members did preparation for the workshop so they are clear of the objectives and expectations for the workshop. The committee agreed to host the workshop early next year.</p> <p>Action: Parul to reach out to members at the start of February 2024 and set dates to set up a workshop for DHAC strategy.</p>
8	Other Business	<p>Maritime Industry Development Plan</p> <p>Jim circulated the Maritime Industry Development Plan for the Harbour to the Committee - Maritime Industry Development Plan Have Your Say Northern Territory. Submissions close on 1 November. It was released on 4 October and DHAC had been listed as a major stakeholder, however DHAC was not consulted. DHAC members agreed to respond to the email and advise them that DHAC was not consulted as a major stakeholder for providing a submission. The Members discussed and agreed on requesting an out of session presentation and extension, which will allow them to formulate a response, and also give them time to decide if the response will be collective on behalf of DHAC or on behalf of individual organisations they represent.</p>

		<p>Senate Inquiry into Middle Arm Development</p> <p>Karen informed the members about an email received regarding CDU's submission to the Senate inquiry into Middle Arm development - Middle Arm Industrial Precinct - Parliament of Australia (aph.gov.au). She suggested having a fair and detailed discussion about the project since there are varied interests in the Committee. Karen expressed concern about losing momentum and suggested that the committee should be on top of things like this. She also suggested that the secretariat support should be more proactive in picking up information and facilitating communication. Karen recommended that members could approach the Chair or communicate with the Committee to address such issues. However, it was noted that the secretariat seeking submissions might be crossing the lines and create a conflict of interest. The Committee acknowledged the concern raised by Karen and noted that there may be other comments on the matter from other members. Kristy mentioned that they (ECNT) are engaged with the project. It was noted that the project has significantly progressed and gone to the second stage. It was suggested to get an update from DIPL on the project. Overall, the committee agreed to allow members to raise important issues for discussion through the secretariat.</p> <p>Action: Claire or Parul to – invite DIPL to provide an update on the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct out of session as early as possible.</p>
9	Communique items	<p>The following items will be included in the Communique to the Minister:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Suncable PowerLink for EIS supplement • Update from Simon and Louis on Darwin Harbour report card. Evaluation of the previous metrics, datasets, proposals and timelines of the plan • Action to follow up on climate change • Approach to communications • Agreed to Maritime Industry plans and seek update and extension to submission • Agreed to seek update from DIPL out of session for Middle Arm • Agreed to host a workshop for Darwin Harbour Strategy next year in February 2024
10	Next meeting	The next meeting will be held in early February 2024, 2 nd and 3 rd week of February. Poll and availability request to be sent out in the next two weeks.
11	Meeting closed	The meeting concluded at 12:52 pm

Actions arising from the meeting

No.	Action	Action officer
1	Alaric to check with Karen Avery and get back to the members with an update for the emission data.	Alaric Fisher
2	Contact members in early February 2024 to arrange a workshop on the DHAC strategy	Parul Chandel
3	Invite DIPL to provide an update on the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct out of session as early as possible.	Claire Streten and Parul Chandel